Scholastic

1924

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notes by James Lincoln Huntington, M.D.
fr 1936 re trip with Tom Barbour

Jan. 30th 1936

Tom and I left Boston at 9 A.M. We reached the South Station before the red caps were really on the job and had to wait some minutes for service. We got into our stateroom on the last car of a train so long that it nearly reached to the Back Bay. When we did stop at that Station our car was so far back that there was not the vestage of a platform. It was we figured about 10° (as a matter of fact it was below zero we heard afterwards) above zero when we left Boston. As we travelled through Connecticut we noted little more snow if any than on our trip through that State ten days before. It was cold in New York and fully as cold in Washington. We went to bed early shortly after the train had been finally arranged in the latter city. It was a cold night but we both slept fairly well and decided to get up shortly after six. As a matter of fact I was in the observation car when it was still so dark that there was only the faintest hint of dawn in the sky and as I looked down the tracks behind I could see the headlight of the following train. Snow was inches deep in the vestibules and piled up high on the rear platforms. In the twilight of early dawn I could see the moss hanging from the cypress trees but that was the only sign of a change for we were still in the grip of Winter. The first station that we came to was Florence S.C. where snow a foot deep had fallen in the previous 24 hours. As sunrise came I could see the beautiful pitch pines with its glorious color and the long needles. We went into breakfast at 7 A.M. naturally the first in the dining car.

Jan. 31st. As we came back from breakfast to the observation car we saw great stretches of Southern pine a lot of it boxed with the little tin cups nailed to the trees to catch the resin. We passed many stills and lumber camps. The darkies were clustered about little bonfires as we passed.

We saw near one of the lumber camps in Georgia two quaint wood burning engines about as big as bicycles. At about 8 a.m. we saw a splendid deer not at all afraid and only near the tracks in the Altamaha river swamp. We saw an occasional turkey buzzard high up in a bare tree and a little later many black vultures. Ice took the place of snow beside the tracks and lasted well after we crossed the line into Florida. At the mouth of the Palatka river we saw three beautiful egrets. Then more turkey buzzards, gulls, terns and then a white heron. We saw a huge bald eagle flying at the mouth of the Halifax river after we passed Jacksonville with its skyscrapers and

St. Augustine with its beautiful palms and Spanish towers. By this time we had left the ice behind. On a stretch of nearly twenty miles ending at Titusville we were very near the shore and saw 2 more bald eagles, at least a dozen Wards herons, Louisiana, small white, and little blue herons, numerous gulls and terns, plovers and two large flocks of ducks of several species. Many pelicans some very near. As we came into Titusville we saw two bunches of black skimmers 3 in each bunch skimming in the most characteristic fashion with the lower mandible under water and this so near that we could plainly see it in detail. From Titusville on we saw more and more oranges and beautiful groves with dark trees amply laden with fruit then many beautiful grapefruit trees plainly distinguished by the larger paler fruit. As we passed Eau Gallie Tom pointed out a corner of his place but of course we could not see the grove. Next we saw pineapples and then we came to many more pelicans at one place we passed a broken down dock and at the top of every pile sat a pelican. Two were flying over near the train and we saw them both dive into the water absolutely out of sight. The palm now was really in the ascendant although the yellow pine and the spruce pine were still making the country beautiful. We also began to see the Australian pine - really a birch cousin - with its long gray green needles. I got out of the train at West Palm Beach - it was still cool really chilly. We travelled very rapidly at times reaching 90 miles an hour and kept practically on time considering that we were the 4th section.

The sun set at 6.1^{30} and we pulled into Miami at about 6.15 We easily found a taxi cab and arrived at David Fairchilds while the twilight was still bright. The old guava jelly mill was ready for us with its quaint walls of the original rooms — it is supposed to be the oldest house in the county.

After a delicious supper we went early to bed the thermometer reading 48°

Feb. 1st Wakened at about 6^{45} sun obviously not up. The sky was clear except for a cloud bank above the horizon. As we began stirring around just outside the house at about sunrise which we decided was about 7 a.m. David appeared and after eating a few cumquats from the bush just outside the house we went through the ceremony of picking the last Alligator pear from the 25 foot high bush near our East window.

Then we went to the kitchen where Tom prepared a superb Spanish mackerel which he cooked in milk. I made some coffee and drank a cup of Mate — very delicate and a little more pungent than tea. After breakfast we went all over the place with David — he pointed out the devastation the hurricane of last November had wrought. Of course I could see that limbs had been lopped off and that there were a few stumps of trees that had been cut down but the place is glorious. Trees laden with grape fruit, oranges, and hybrids and blossoming with the most gorgeous blooms. As we walked about we could hear the distant roar of the planes from the air port some two miles away warming up for the flights to Nassau and So. America. As we walked among the trees David would pick fruit for me to eat. Grape fruit, a cross between a Mandarin and a grape fruit, a delicious lime with yellow almost pinkish meat and not so sour but what it was delicious with no added sweetening. Then I sampled a little yellow Japanese fruit called a loquat about the size and nearly the shape of a small butternut it had an oval smooth seed about the size of a small coffee bean. I saw my first mocking bird and so near that I could almost have touched it. We saw a robin, two yellow palm warblers, several warblers that I could not identify and two humming birds. About ten o'clock we went into Miami and went to the Curb Market. Stalls filled with flowers, fruits, and vegetables, jellies and preserves – it was a wonderful sight most of the vegetables were very cheap string beans three lbs for 25 cents, cabbage three cents a pound. We then went to the fish stall but Tom didn't think they had the kind of fish not wanted — namely a grouper for chowder. We went up the river to another market "Capt. Tom's" but they had no grouper or red snapper there so we got a couple of superb pompano and frogs legs then we went back to the curb market where we got a splendid grouper weighing about 8 lbs cut up for chowder. We got back just after 12:30. We had for lunch [illegible] crawfish and papaya wine and salad. The crawfish meat was like lobster but better to my thinking and the wine although made locally was very good. After lunch and a little snooze, which I did not join in, David, Tom and I went over to Col. Montgomery's perfectly marvellous palm garden. We found the Col. in back of his house where they have recently laid out a new lagoon — there I saw my first alligator in Florida — about 3½ feet long — just as it was about to slide into the water. Col. Montgomery has over 400 species of palms Tom thinks probably the finest collections in the world certainly the finest in America. We walked all over the place spending quite a little while looking at a superb lichi tree which was in very bad shape and 'tis a question whether or not it will live. We came back through the greenhouses where several of Tom's seeds from Africa were growing and a beautiful [illegible] Moraea ~~plant~~ from Africa was in blossom with a large violet blossom on a slender stem. We met Mr. Montgomery and several friends — the Col. gave us highballs and we had a very pleasant time. On the way back we came ~~through the~~ mangrove swamp where considerable damage had been done by the hurricane. For supper we had grouper chowder and it was simply marvelous — it was really a fish soup almost a juice the fish was so thoroughly mixed with the liquor. This was followed by a delicious salad. In the evening we sat around and talked and I turned in about 10^{30}. Mild moonlight night.

Feb. 2nd another clear day. The sun rose at 7^{05} — why it should rise after seven and set after six I can't dope out but I suppose there is some good reason! Tom cut up a splendid great papaya which we had instead of fruit — it was like a melon in some ways but very delicate and delicious. Then we had a perfectly wonderful blue fish cooked in shells.

I neglected to note that as I was taking my bath this a.m. I noted in ~~the~~ bathroom above the tub a tarantula with a spread of about 4 inches — quite a handsome fellow.

Right after breakfast Tom, David and I started off to see the birds. We went out the Tamiami Trail for about two miles as we went along we saw Jack-daws, little white, and many Louisiana heron in the canal to the right of the trail as we went westward. The birds were thicker and thicker as we went along. Finally we turned off the trail to the right on to this very narrow wagon road which was a perfect paradise for birds the air was literally filled with them — myriads of swallows, yellow palm warblers, redwing black birds were constantly flying about we saw a splendid male cardinal in full plumage, Coot by the hundreds, Rails of several different kinds, the dusky duck, many blue winged teal, besides the larger birds. Ward's heron only a few in the distance and as we were coming down the main road. Louisiana heron — literally thousands, small white heron in flocks and single birds often very near. Great white heron hundreds of them, white ibis many fairly large flocks and many single birds and numerous immature bi but the finest of all was the flint head the great ibis the single specimen of the stork family in America. These great black and white bird we saw in flocks of ten or twenty up to over a hundred and several single birds so near that we could observe them plainly through the glass. We saw many yellow crowned night herons and some of them very near. I watched through the glass a flint head and a Louisiana heron standing close together on the same tuft and so could compare them admirably. We saw many little blue herons singly and in flocks. Hundreds of turkey buzzards were wheeling in flight or lazily flapping around us or were perched beside the road — one which we watched for some time through the glass at a distance of less than 20 feet. Many 'curlews' singly and in flocks up to forty or fifty. We saw one small green heron and had a marvelous view of a bittern standing still with its beak sticking straight up in the air so that it looked like a tuft of coarse grass. The sounds of all these birds were almost as marvelous is the sight of them. Beside the above mentioned birds we saw an osprey, several everglade kites, mocking birds, many Maryland yellow throats, numberless other warblers in winter plumage impossible for us to identify, kingfishers, grackles in large flocks, a number of grebes, gallinules (both species peculiar to Florida), several 'killdeer' plover. We all agreed that it was one of the most marvellous ornithological experiences in our entire lives.

After leaving this wonderful stretch of the Everglades we turned about not without some difficulty and hazard on the narrow causeway and returned to the main road which we followed for about ten miles until we came to an Indian village — a very small one with a roadside stand and baskets, bows + arrows, miniature dug out canoes, and stuffed aligators for sale. Admission to the Indian village was 15 cents each. Tom bought a couple of baskets and David a dugout. We got back about half an hour before lunch — Pompano preceded by onion soup and ending with lemon merangue pie.

Col. Montgomery's chauffeur brought around a Dodge car which I think Tom will buy. We rode some distance in it and it went very well except that the free wheeling features seemed impossible to cut out. I had a headache probably from eye strain in the bright sunlight of the morning so I napped for most of the afternoon. Now at five o'clock I am feeling fine and waiting for Tom & David to come back from a walk. I would add that these Indians were very fine appearing men dressed in shirts which suggested their ancient customs, & trousers shoes and socks which did not, the women wore their hair in a very peculiar sort of bonnet covered with a net and wore a long dress reaching to the ground brightly colored. Around their necks they wore necklaces of colored beads. In the village we saw a little papoose about five months old being swung in a hammock by its mother. We then turned back and reached home in plenty of time for dinner.

Feb. 3 another glorious day. Went early in Miami and shopped at the curb market and at Capt. Tom's. We got cocoanut stone crabs and 4 quarts for breakfast tomorrow and a splendid great red snapper to bake for supper tonight. When we came back from the marketing we went to the orchid hammock - Mr. Fennell in Naranja not far from Homestead. It was a most marvelous sight - he had hundreds of blooms as beautiful as I have ever seen. Besides this he had orchids growing wild on the trees in the tangle of the hammock and thousands of seedlings. Almost as wonderful as the orchids were the birds. A pair of cardinals so tame that they almost sat on our fingers, a cat bird that lit repeatedly within three feet of us and a beautiful oven bird that was within a foot of the path as we walked by. Besides this there were several other cardinals and many palm warbler just a few feet back from the path. We got back in time for lunch. Broiled conch and the claws of the stone crab — two perfectly superb dishes. Conch funnily enough reminded me a little of tripe — it certainly was delicious. The stone crab I think takes the palm for any cooked shell fish. Of course we topped off with a delicious salad and this repast was preceded by the last of the grouper chowder from the previous night. We went to bed rather early after lunch or rather laid down for a real snooze. At 4 P.M. we started out for the 'Glades to see the birds go to bed. Only a few birds in the canal as we went along but as we turned into the Everglade we saw a Louisiana heron and three gallinules one badly injured for it limped — Tom thought it probably was bitten by a gator.

(I forgot to tell that on our way to Homestead in the A.M.

we saw our first king snake 5-6 feet) We saw numberless birds milling about in the distance and as we went along we put up quantities of all the heron family including Wards heron — many more than on our previous trip.

We got way out on the causeway and began to see curlews, ibis, and big and little whites in flocks running into the hundreds. We turned around with little difficulty and crept slowly back to a spot filled with water with scrub willows about 100 yds from the causeway the hundreds of birds that rose on our arrival soon settled down so that we could study them with glasses and the nearer ones with the naked eye. There were hundreds of ibis, well over five hundred small whites often fighting with their crests thrown out like huge cowlicks on their heads, hundreds of great white herons, over a hundred that

heads, well over a hundred Louisianas and there
often in open conflict with the small whites,
about half a dozen yellow crowned night
herons some immature and at least
6 black crowned night heron. To the
north another huge batch of birds
probably twice as large as the one
we were watching were milling around
and as the flocks of ibis and little
white & blue came sailing in
there was a definite division between
the two camps. There was also a generous
interchange between the two camps. We
heard the weirdest sounds from the
flocks we were watching. As dusk
crept on the birds kept flying in
in larger and larger flocks and
about half an hour after sunset
we started back. We saw coot,
and teal, many kill deer plover
and two black neck stilts sailing
along close to the water of the canal on the left.

when we finally left the birds were pouring in at such a rate that the total aggregate was impossible to estimate but it ran well into many thousands and probably into the proportions we have described except that the White Ibis were increasingly in the ascendant. I find that I have omitted the Little Blues which were present in number almost equalling the Louisianas. On our way out we were constantly raising scattered groups of all the above including Ward's heron. We got home in plenty of time for supper which consisted of our red snapper cooked to a turn — a grand fish. this was backed up with dasheens (a lilly bulb) and a delicious salad. Early to bed.

Feb. 4th Another glorious day — warm and delightful. We cooked our grunts in a frying pan and they were perfectly delicious. Immediately after breakfast we went to Cocoanut Grove for our shopping and as soon as we got back started at once for the South our objective was Key Largo and the Royal Palm Park. We saw an occasional hawk and of course buzzards as we went over a marvelous road through absolutely flat country. We passed through enormous tomato farms one where there were over a thousand acres of tomatoes stretching in every direction. There were great fields of string beans and acres of potatoes. We crossed over the bridge into Key Largo and came to many acres of limes — looking rather neglected I thought. We went through the grounds of the Key Largo's Anglers Club and then out into the wilds. We stopped and got out where we had a beautiful view of Florida Bay. We saw many cormorants and I saw my first barracuda — about 18 in long — ugly looking devil. We then went straight on down the Keys at the left we had glimpses of the sea getting more beautiful in color with every mile. We passed the remains of a wild cat run over by an automobile probably a fairly young one. There was no sign of damage of a serious nature until we got onto lower Key Largo but beyond Tavernia it was suddenly fearful on every side destruction houses left in piles like kindling wood, the railroad wrecked, concrete posts thrown over. The Matacumbe Hotel was left with just the remains of the lower story. Between upper and lower Matacumbe the railroad was picked up bodily and could be seen lying an eighth of a mile out to sea. Here we saw a few pelicans the only ones seen ~~today~~. Tom and David both thought that many pelicans must have been killed by the hurricane. We kept right on to the lower end of Lower Matacumbe where the ferry for Key West docks. There is only one ferry the other was destroyed last fall in the Sept. hurricane. At this point the destruction of the railroad and of vegetation was appalling. We took several yards of film and then retraced our steps to Max's in Tavernier where we had an excellent lunch. Fish chowder, crawfish and the best tomatoes I have seen in Florida. We came directly back to Homestead where we got some oranges and bananas. From there we went to the Royal Palm Park — such palms I never dreamt could grow on this continent they looked like pictures of Africa or South America. The palms were many of them nearly if not quite a hundred feet high and very slender and graceful beyond description

We saw several birds, a pair of blue gray gnat catchers which we watched for some time. An oven bird which I could have touched it was so near and it hopped about my feet for several minutes. Cat birds, palm warblers, mocking birds in considerable number. We saw a splendid wild Turkey gobbler in captivity Tom says he has been here for 3 years. We saw several heron Louisiana, large & small whites. We saw several Marsh Hawks on migration and several very small Southern Sparrow hawks (called Killy hawks here locally). We saw herring gulls here in number as far South as Matacumbe Key. We also saw many Terns, coots, and gallinules.

We got back in plenty of time for dinner in fact before sunset after a marvellous day and after having covered some 200 miles.

We had quite a dinner party in the evening but in spite of this we got to bed before 10^{30} Have not seen the big tarantula in the bath room for 2 days now but both the small ones are out tonight.

Feb. 5 Foggy morning everything soaked with moisture. Went to market and got crawfish for lunch, bluefish for breakfast tomorrow morning and red snapper for dinner tonight. Tom got a box of jelly for Sally. We took our clothes to be cleaned and pressed. Then we went to Mathesons Hammock. This matchless jungle is left in almost its original condition and is given to the County. We spent over an hour wandering through the paths and looking for birds. We saw a gray squirrel considerably smaller that its Northern cousin and easily distinguished by black bar on either cheek. We also saw the gray kingbird and here

In winter it goes South of here usually but is quite abundant here in Summer. I watched a lovely cat bird very close at hand. There were warblers flitting about high up in the trees but I could not identify them. From the hammock we went down to Tahiti Beach and watched the bathers for a while then back to lunch. Crawfish, baked tomatoes, turnips and spinach. The pompano baked in milk today for breakfast was a singular success. We had great fun settling the comparative merits of the oranges from North and South Florida. Yesterday a crate of oranges came from Tom's grove in Eau Gallie also Yesterday we bought some choice oranges in Homestead. We squeezed this morning a pitcher of Homestead fruit and a pitcher of Indian River. There was no question as to which was which! The Indian River fruit has much more body and perfume and is much sweeter, besides it the fermented fruit tasted sour and almost insipid. It cleared off beautifully by 10 a.m. and the sun now is very bright and hot, the thermometer at 12 M. was just a hair line under 80° but there is a beautiful breeze blowing from off shore. Late in the afternoon we went down to the Pan American air port and saw the two 'ships' come in from Cuba and Nassau. First came in the great plane from Havana with four propellers, it landed gently in the water 100 yds off shore taxied in a ways and then row boats met the plane and with hawsers she was drawn to the dock and some 30 odd passengers got off (the plane had accomodations for 48 passengers. Soon the plane from Nassau came in right and repeated the performance. It was a smaller plane had only two propellers and did not land so far off shore, taxied much nearer the dock and was evidently much easier handled I presume it had accomodation for about 24 passengers and it appeared full. We had baked Pompano for dinner and it was delicious.

Feb. 6 Raining as we got up and later at that! We went to Coral Gables to shop and then on to the Zoo at Opalocka en route we got a blow out but with the aid of two boys, who were passing and looking for work (they were riding bicycles), we soon got the spare adjusted and got to a garage where we bought a new shoe to be picked up after our visit to the Zoo.

It was a most interesting place. In the first place Dr. Townsend of the American Museum in New York has all his turtles from the Galapagos some sixty in all and they seemed in splendid shape. This of course is absolutely unique in the entire world. Then there was a fine collection

Of monkeys and baboons — many species and fine specimens, and more feeding. A really remarkable collection of local turtles and alligators. One very good crocodile. A fine black bear. Most of the local snakes several diamond back rattlers and one pygmy. The diamond backs were well worked up, coiled and rattling hard enough to be heard at a considerable distance. A cotton mouthed moccasin — a king snake and several others. There were two Kangaroos, two porcupines, many small mammals including the native fox a very cunning little fellow. Besides this there were many birds Peafowl, pheasants, many kinds a beautiful specimen of the dove family, cardinal birds, eagles and numerous parrots ducks and geese. It was a well arranged and intensely interesting show. As we were leaving who should drive up but George Bernard Shaw and his wife. We had an excellent view of him — quite tall and very thin. After lunch — and we had as guests George T. Moore of St. Louis and his daughter. He was my professor of Botany at Dartmouth and while he did not remember me really he remembered my father. His daughter knew Dode & Betty.

After they left Tom and I went to Coral Gables to do some errands and after we returned I wrote a letter to Sally which I mailed when I went down to Coconut Grove to get our new shoe — now we are well equipped with two absolutely new shoes on the rear and two apparently new shoes in front and a perfectly good spare. It is very muggy tonight but the thermometer stands at 78°

Two of our tarantula friends are with us tonight. This afternoon when I went to the village there was a young negro fellow with a dancing bear. Of course he had to be muzzled but he seemed very tame. His trainer carried a tambourine and the bear danced, shimmied and saluted. His trainer said that he was very gentle and about 5 years old. He was cinnamon in color. We are turning in before 9 O'clock tonight as we want to be out in the Everglades at sunrise and see the birds — then we are going on to Everglades — a town nearly 100 miles west of here — getting back late tomorrow afternoon.

Feb. 7 David called us at 6^{30} Clear morning warm & lovely — After a breakfast of pork chops & fried potatoes we started on our way and reached the bird grounds at sunrise — the only new bird we saw was the sora rail just as we were crossing the bridge on to the causeway. We saw huge flocks of Flintheads, little white ibis, Great and Little White herons. Some in flocks of many hundreds. We saw gallinules and coot. Quantities of teal and many kingfishers. We saw small flocks of little blues hundreds of Louisianas and an occasional yellow crowned night. A few Wards but not many. In some ways it was better than our other trips to the same region. We saw many birds at close range and great flocks in the distance. We got back on the Tamiami trail at about 8^{30} and boiled along down the trail stopping to see interesting birds beside the road. It was very instructive to see how absolutely indifferent the birds were to cars passing at average speed. On the other hand if the car slowed down the bird became restless and if it stopped absolutely without exception the birds promptly moved on. Tom saw an otter shortly before we came to the Y and turned off on the pine crest road. We saw one splendid osprey very shortly before we made this turn About two miles down the pine crest road we saw our first snake bird ('water turkey', anhinga) perched in a tree beside the road Tom had spotted one in the air just before this. The one in the tree was a male bright shiney black as if polished with stove polish. The head is so small that one cannot see where the neck ends and the very small head begins. The bird has an ungainly flight. A few hundred yards more and we saw a snake bird swimming and so near that we could see its peculiar action — it looked exactly like a sort of snake rearing out of water — this was a female and the neck was fawn color instead of black. David got a couple of pictures of this bird in the water. We saw red shouldered hawks, ospreys and many more snake birds as we went along this remarkable road. Soon the cypress trees became in the ascendant and practically the only tree for miles and miles. Lovely blue grey without their foliage of needles which they shed like the larch. A very few showed the tender green of the spring foliage. Pileated woodpecker were heard on several occasions and one seen at Lost Mans River. We passed a wild cat killed by the roadside. We studied carefully a yellow winged (Pine woods) sparrow at close range noting its black skull cap with a silver grey line in the middle of the cap and its distinctly yellowish wing. All this time on this road we were constantly raising Ward heron many more than we had seen in any part of the country. At Lost Mans River we saw a splendid bass estimated at about 3 1/2 pounds. We several more Southern (Florida) Red shouldered hawks (Allens hawk to be exact named for J. A. a pupil of L. Agassiz) We finally came out again on the Tamiami Trail and hurried along through quite a heavy shower into the town of Everglades. The town is quite elaborately landscaped and is very neat and trim and exceedingly attractive. The luncheon was responsible for nearly an hour. Tom and I betook ourselves to Deaconess Bedell's — she is a missionary to the Seminoles and seemed a very intelligent person. She is collecting for the Peabody Museum and she showed us costumes and utensils. We spent nearly an hour hearing her story and it was intensely interesting. For lunch, which we had at the Everglades Inn — one of the best Tarpon fishing centers in Florida — we had 'red fish' - channel bass - perfectly delicious as were the corn muffins.

After lunch we started promptly and went on down the Tamiami Trail to the Royal Palm Hammock the only other place on the continent where this glorious tree is native except in the Park previously noted

We could not really get very close to these superb trees but could see them at close enough range to photograph. Tom caught the smallest toad native to this country here for the museum

this is th [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

We went down to the end of the road to a place where fishing boats could apparently be secured. We put up a lot of birds but they were very timid and we could not get anywhere near them. We saw no spoonbills as had been promised us at the Hotel. On the way back it rained nearly all the time but we saw many herons and thousands of swallows evidently migrating. We arrived back at 5-30 after a really wonderful day. For dinner we had a splendid steak to relieve, what might be to others, the monotony of a fish diet. Mrs. Archibald of Washington arrived in time for dinner. We went to bed fairly early.

Feb. 8 The morning dawned dark and heavily overcast with fine rain driven by a ~~[illegible]~~ strong wind, temp 68°. Soon rain was falling heavily. We got up early as we thought Nancy was going to Nassau but the bad weather held her from making the flight. For breakfast we had smoked Spanish mackerel & papaya juice. We went into town to the markets for provisions. We were lucky enough to get turtle meat at Capt. Toms also smoked King fish. Frogs legs and mullet roes. For vegetables we got a very small squash about as big as a sickel pear a little longer and not quite so fat as Challoytes. For lunch we had stuffed pepper and the little squashes and strawberries. The little squash is very delicious. It has rained hard all day — the planes have been running however but the day is really very bad. We have been reading, writing and sleeping all day. Now at 5 P.M. the rain is coming down in sheets and the temperature stands at 68°. This morning while at breakfast two cardinals were eating bird seed on the wall. On reading over the foregoing pages I find that I have left out several things. In the first place Tom did buy the Dodge car and we have been over five hundred miles in it already. It has proven most satisfactory. Again I find that I have omitted to mention that on Feb. 3rd before ~~after~~ going to the Orchid Farm we stopped en route ~~went on~~ ~~at~~ a quite remarkable "Monkey Jungle" in a little hammock in Naranja. A couple from Connecticut have about 15 or twenty monkeys and one large Chimpanzee "Mary" of course most of these were in cages but some four or five are living wild in the tree tops and are breeding fast. They have tried to add to these "free" monkeys (an African green monkey Vervet) but the troop will having nothing to do with them and drove them away. The animals seemed strong and well. Mary was most friendly and showed considerable intelligence. She is about 4 years old and she would pick up a stick and poke at a piece of carrot until she could draw it near enough to reach out and pick it up. She ate a guava David had given to me at the market and seemed most grateful to me for giving it to her. She was very sorry to have us go and seemed to be begging us to stay. There were two very young monkeys born to the females in the troop and very cunning.

This morning while at the bait market, in the Miami River within pebble toss of where we parked the car was a splendid great pelican fishing.

Feb. 9. Tom waked at 4^{30} pouring rain at 6 we both appraised the weather and considering it was a heavy Scotch mist with the sky heavy hung with dark clouds we decided that it was not the morning to go birding so turned over for a longer sleep. However at 7^{05} David was outside our window proclaiming a glorious morning & so it was! We dressed hurridly eliminating the non essentials and after a breakfast of orange juice and smoked spanish mackerel we were on our way at about 7^{45}. We saw very few birds in the canal until we turned onto our road to the North. Then we saw multitudes of our old favorites.

We saw however many more black crowned and yellow crowned Night Herons. We also saw a little yellow rail which was new and Connecticut warblers and Maryland yellow throats. An unusual number of Florida red wings, grackles and Boat tailed grackles (Jack daws) turtles and snakes the latter for the first time.

The only snake we identified was the common Florida Water Moccasin (not the poisonous one) Tom saw a big cotton mouth on the track on our way in.

We saw hundreds of egrets, great Whites, ibis and flintheads and many hundred Louisianas and several little blue. We saw teal and coots. Many gallinules and 2 bitterns. We saw dusky ducks and had a rare sight of a wood duck in full plumage. I got a splendid view and many feet of film of a Louisiana heron and several feet of film of a small white heron. We left the car at the sunken dredge and went on, on foot. Several hunters with 22 rifles were a disturbing feature but while we heard many shots we saw no dead birds so they may have just been about their legitimate business of killing snakes. After spending about two hours on the road we got into the car and went to the Zoo at Opalocka where Tom was given a fine specimen of Brown Hog nosed snake a real find — only one in N. C. Z.!! This we shipped to the Museum this P.M. We saw several more critters than at our previous visit — a splendid African Leopard and little honey bear from So. America. We also saw two superb wood ducks and many Florida Quail — very tame. We got home in good time for lunch — a splendid Muscovy Duck which Tom found in the market yesterday — almost as big as a goose and ample for 8 people. The day was quite warm and after our busy morning we napped quite heavily and at 4^{30} went into Miami for some real German beer at Old Heidelberg — Very busy and very good indeed. We got home in time to cook the supper of fish both fresh Spanish mackerel and smoked King fish both were delicious. this with salad made a delicious supper. We turned in at 9 P.M. It was a beautiful balmy full moon or nearly so. Temp. 68

Feb. 10 David caught us before we were half dressed with the cheery news that day had begun or as he put it "Nearly 10 o'clock" this was surprising as the watches said 7 20 We breakfasted on fruit juice papaya, very delicious, and baked Spanish mackerel. Tom and I went early to market - vegetables for two meals and some Virginia ham for lunch. We saw two big pelicans in the Miami River. It was raining very hard and colder just 64 when we got back. Soon Jim Greenway and his wife showed up en route to Nassau We went down to Chapman Field and spent a very pleasant morning. Jim & his wife stayed to lunch. After lunch Tom & I took them back to their hotel they were sailing at 4 P.M. Then Tom & I went to see about passage to Havana we tentatively engaged a stateroom for day after tomorrow then I got a new roll of film and after that we went to the aquarium where there were many interesting fishes, sharks, turtles, alligators, crocodiles, and one Manatee (the sea cow) the mate was dead much to Tom's disappointment. We walked along the water front seeing many beautiful yachts and watching the great pelicans swimming serenely in spite of chugging motor boats so near that the birds were caught in the swell of the wake — they really seemed to enjoy it. Others were flying close above the water or resting on a small spit of sand about 1/4 mile off shore along with numerous gulls. We got back a little before five. The rain stopped before noon and the afternoon has been lovely but much cooler than the previous days. George Farnsworth, his wife and two of their guests Mr + Mrs Thompson came to dinner. We had green turtle fins and they certainly were delicious

We had a very pleasant time and it is arranged that I am to call George up at sunrise and if the day is favorable we will go and see the start of the Ocean Race to Nassau tomorrow morning.

Feb. 11th Tom and I up before sunrise temp 46° strong wind - Called up George who said that it was a good day and that he would send for me a little before 8. The chauffeur was here punctually and we went through the city of Miami and out across numerous bridges to Miami Beach which is a series of islands with a wonderful Beach stretching along the whole length of the archipelago as it touches the sea. George's house on Collins Ave. borders on the canal and fronts on the shore a few hundred yards South of the Bath Club. His yacht was moored at his back door - one could toss a pebble from his back door and it would land on the deck of his yacht - and that means just tossing! Shortly after 9 George, his daughter Sally and

I started off in her auxilliary schooner - and chugged our way towards the Nautillus Hotel we passed through a drawbridge George blowing his siren and the streams of traffic where held up while we shot through. It was really very interesting and not without a thrill. At the Hotel we picked up Mr. & Mrs. Edmands of Brookline. I had met Mr. E. at John Hawes' house on Clyde St. We then proceeded on our way through another drawbridge and on out by the tremendous breakwater which stretched its piles of rocks on either side for well over a mile. Then on out to sea where we could plainly see the line where the Gulf Stream began. There were many yachts and excursion boats and when we thoroughly got our bearings we could plainly make out the dozen or so contestants for the Ocean Race to Nassau.

We reached a point directly on the starting line and only a couple of hundred yards off the course just about 5 minutes before the starting gun was fired. We watched all the yachts start and then as they were pulling off towards the horizon we chugged back to the Chamber of Commerce Wharf where George's car was waiting for us. We left the yacht for the man to take back to George's house. We left the Edwards at their house and then went to George's where we changed our things & got a bit slicked up. Meanwhile the guests gathered and at one o'clock we went to the Bath Club where after a cocktail we gathered about a long table under a big umbrella where we could look out on the Beach and the Ocean beyond a beautiful turquoise blue. There were fourteen of us and among them besides the Thompsons and the Edwards, Mrs. E. &

Sally, were a Mr. & Mrs. Foster from Montclair N.J. Mr. F. graduated from Dartmouth in 1896 and I remembered him well & told him about his classmates where he came from (Concord N.H.) and while he could not really remember me at the same time he knew who I was. Mrs Foster was brought up in Cambridge and lived in Longwood and knew Sally's Aunt & Uncle Mr & Mrs. Fred Bowditch both in Brookline and in Marion. We had a very pleasant time at the Club. George sent me back with one of the other ladies whose husband is the British Consul in Miami. When I reached Coconut Grove I found Mrs. Bakeland calling and when it came time for her to go I motored her home and spent a pleasant half hour at her house. Dr. B. gave me some of his grape fruit wine carbonized – it is very pleasant and refreshing and of course different. We talked of Dry years and sampled some. I got home in plenty of time for dinner, turtle steak and mighty good it was although not so delicious as the turtle fins of the night before. To bed early.

Feb 12 Lincoln's Birthday and, mirabile dictu, a legal holiday in Florida!!! We were up shortly after 6 and had goose eggs scrambled c̄ chick peas for breakfast with mate and fruit juice. We had trouble in starting the Dodge — it was a cold morning but almost perfectly clear — thermometer 47 at 6^{50} After we got Nancy's car going we went right to the market (Capt Toms fruit) and sent off some smoked kingfish to Sal & Roz. We also got a fine Pompano for lunch. We went to the curb market for vegetables some fine tomatoes from Key Largo and some beans and lettuce. When we came back from the market we stopped at the S.S. Office and got our ~~tickets~~ for Havana tonight then we stopped at C. Grove and sent off telegrams to Adelaide and to Boston. Shortly after I reached the Fairchilds I took Tom down to Col. Montgomery's where he had to write some letters for the Col. M. After this when I got back Nancy took me to her studio and played several of her records on the Victor one of them was very good but they all could be better. Then I packed until lunch time. The Pompano was perfectly delicious really the best fish we have had since we have been down here. It beats a shad and that is about the highest praise any one can give. After lunch I finished packing took Tom to the village to mail some letters and send off a fine Virginia ham, Tom bought from a Georgia cracker, to Pa. Then we came home and Tom, David and Mr. Archibald went over to Col. Montgomery's and I am writing this record which I will now pack as we are leaving for the boat in a couple of hours.

David took us down to the boat. We said a fond good bye and got on board and into our very excellent room looking right out on the bow on the upper deck. We got under way promptly and after backing around we followed the causeway to Miami Beach so closely that we could have tossed a stone dangerously near the automobiles that went whizzing past. It was still light enough to see the breakwater as we went along. I have neglected to note that we had a very excellent dinner on the boat before we left the dock, We were at the Capt's table but in his chair sat the pilot a real old sea dog who had much in common with Tom and made very interesting conversation After the lights of Miami were fading on the horizon Tom turned in. I stayed on deck for another half hour and turned in at 9^{45}. We had a wakeful night as the wind began to kick up quite a sea almost as soon as we struck the Gulf Stream. I should say I slept about 3 hours. Feb. 13th I was up at six and on deck. There was a very strong wind from the North East kicking up a really heavy sea and throwing spray and often water on the deck. There was a bright spot showing the East. A tramp steamer was about half a mile off our Port bow but nothing else on the horizon. At 6^{30} I went to the dining room. Many of the passengers looked pretty seedy and all spoke of the hard night. I was on deck before 7 A.M. and very wet it was. The dawn was flooding the East with color. Just about 6 bells as I was sweeping the horizon with my glasses in vain for any sign of land a tremendous wave deluged the deck wetting me to the skin. Fortunately the wind was so strong that in fifteen minutes I was practically bone dry. At about 7^{30} there was a definite sense of land over the Port bow but the glasses revealed no landmarks. But fifteen minutes later the high buildings of Havana could be seen as in a mirage and to the South East flashes of lightening constantly getting nigher. From then on Havana unfolded herself more and more with every minute until at 8^{10} Morro Castle was just abeam of us. As we came up the Harbor we saw many pelicans, some herring and a flock of laughing gulls. Tom pointed out the important landmarks and as we pulled towards our dock the darling boys

Swimming around the boat yodelled as they tried to persuade the passengers (often unsuccessfully) to throw coins over board then would follow a scramble for the coin in the water. Getting through the Immigration Office was a tedious matter and it was almost 9^{30} before we got on shore where Henriquez and Maurice were waiting for us. We reached the Hotel the Ambos Mundos, in the old part of the city just around the corner from the old Capt. Generals Palace (where Leonard Wood lived in the days of American occupation). in a pouring rain which grew worse and worse with sharp flashes of lightening and peals of thunder. We went up on the roof and had some hot chocolate and then found an automobile and went for a really wonderful ride up through the city and then out into the suburbs to the wonderful Country Club. I noted especially the glorious Royal Palms. The rain continued heavily and lasted without a break until after we had our lunch at the Cafe, across the street which bears the same name as our Hotel.

We had shrimps and mighty good they were then a delicious egg dish with peas, asparagus, onions, and artichokes. Then we had red snapper steaks and rice cooked with almonds. and washed down with real Valdepeñas! After lunch we again chartered an automobile, after going to Hemingway Office and talking to Soledad, and spent over three hours in the suburbs of this beautiful city again the Royal Palm were the greatest feature of the landscape but added to these were the great Mango Trees and the splendid great Alligator Palms and the groves of bamboo. We also saw acres of sugar cane. As we drove the rain stopped the blue sky appeared and we rode in brilliant sunshine When we got back we both napped rather vigorously for a couple of hours more or less and then awakening very thirsty and not caring to sample Havana water we went across the street with tongues so dry they rattled against our teeth but two long glasses of Piña Colada brought us refreshment and solace. We then strolled through the narrow streets alive with pedestrians, trolley cars and automobiles along sidewalks so narrow that we had to keep the walk as the trolleys turned the corners in many places as the fender would sweep at least the outer half of the corner of the sidewalk as the trolley rounded each turn. We walked through the wonderful Cathedral square and then out again into narrow streets with the inhabitants hanging out of the windows or sitting in the open front of the shops. Evidently the two of us together caused much comment and merriment "Did you ever see 2 like that together before"! We came out on the Prado alive with noises of every description. All automobiles seem required to blow their horns not only at every street intersection but every time they see another automobile, a pedestrian, trolley car or dog. (That at least so it seemed to the casual observer) Havana is noisy, every paper boy has lungs like a starter in the Grand Central Station and does he use them!! Then a band plays before every Restaurant and the loud speakers in the Radio establishments are turned with the idea of reaching the ships half way to Florida. But Havana is a very beautiful city as clean as a whistle not a scrap of paper nor litter of any kind in the streets and even the niggers looked clean. And the Public buildings are superb as are many of the houses especially those along the water front and in the suburbs. The Royal Palm is of course the finest tree but all the trees are distinguished looking. I saw with regret the strangler fig firmly established on many a fine [illegible] tree but of course that takes many years to accomplish its end. After walking slowly through the Prado we sat down in front of the Hotel Inglaterra (this used to be the fine old Hotel of Havana but is sadly changed now being a typical tourist Hotel. We had a couple of Presidentes (cocktails) delicious refreshing and mild. Then we strolled into the cosmopolita ~~Continental~~ next door where we met Henriquez and we had first sherry (very old, fruity, and dry) then a round of Presidentes we had chicken giblet soup then little red snappers in paper followed by Guinea chicken in Canen Co., this with a light Spanish wine called Diamante and very good it was a cross between Graves and Sauternes. We finished off with Benedictine. We took Henriquez home and then went up and down the water front for about an hour then stopped at the Cafe across the street from the Hotel and had a stein of Hackerbrau — my first dark German beer in over twenty five years. We went promptly to bed amongst a perfect bedlam of noises which quieted down almost as soon as we turned in and we slept all night soundly.

Feb. 14th On waking a little before 7 we saw through the back window opening on the water that it was a clear day. We had a breakfast of tea, Spanish omelettes and wonderful pineapple (Cuban style — broad slabs no fork) then after finishing our packing we were ready when our automobile arrived at 8 a.m. and we were on our way at 8 15 we had a perfect day — cool and partially overcast. The road was as good as the Worcester turnpike and we slipped along at about a kilometer a minute.

As soon as we really got out into the country. Everything was fresh and green we passed a lot of truck farms with garden vegetables, pigeon peas, Indian corn and okra. I saw a mongoose run across the road about twenty miles East of Havana. We saw very few Turkey buzzards until just as we got to Matanzas. We went through this beautiful town and Tom pointed out the interesting landmarks. We saw several pelicans diving in the harbor. We stopped at the Imperial Hotel in Colon at 12 o'clock, for our lunch. It was excellent Grouper soup. Red snapper and vegetables and pigs knuckles with excellent rice. With this we had some Spanish red wine which we drank with mineral water. We were again on our way at 1 50. Of course long before we got to Matanzas we passed huge fields of sugar cane and occasionally we would see a huge factory where the cane was being ground. Also often small be seen the long trains of cane puffing their way towards their factory. Sometimes we passed so near one of these in operation ~~that~~ we could smell the smoke of their factory saturated with the odor of sugar being cooked. This may be from the steam but probably is from the smoke itself for the cane after being squeezed is used for fuel. Of course the salient feature of the landscape was the Royal Palm. That glorious tree was almost always to be seen and often reaching eighty or ninety feet in height. We passed long rows of several hundred -old avenues leading to Spanish plantations destroyed in the Cuban Revolution. The country was often quite hilly. Near Matanzas two large hills on the near horizon reminded me much of Mt. Toby and Sugar Loaf to the north of Hadley. Tom said that one of these was called "the bread-loaf of Matanzas" We passed by a few fields of Tobacco and at times near enough to smell it. At one place very near the road we saw the men cutting the sugar cane with their long machetes. Between Matanzas and Colon we went through a long Savanah where there was no sugar cane but numbers of Palmettoes and other palms there were only a few Royal Palms in this region but enough so that the two trees could be carefully compared. Many of the Palmettoes were tall some well over fifty feet high but instead of the exquisite moulding of the stem as seen in the Royal the Palmetto is much coarser in outline and not nearly so graceful then too the broad palmy "leaves" were not to be compared to the pinnate foliage of the Royal for grace and beauty. After Matanzas we saw many Turkey buzzards two or three constantly wheeling in the sky above us or lazily flapping out of the way as they sat in the road. All this country especially before we reached Matanzas is great cattle country and the cows, steers and bulls all looked very well — much better than the horses which we often saw in pasture or being ridden. Most were carrying the peasantry of the region usually carrying big straw saddle bags stuffed full. We often passed fairly near the peasants houses and saw the horse saddled often on the piazza or in the open door or hitched to the piazza rail, goats, pigs, hens and occasionally geese were in the door yard. We left the good road, or rather the perfect road, at Esperanza and after getting out of the village found ourselves on a very good new road and well on our way to Cienfuegos. From then on we were in sugar cane country and there was almost always a mill to be seen somewhere on the horizon. The country was considerably flatter, but of course not like Florida, but in the distance to the right of us stretched the superb chain of the Trinidad mountains.

We had a bad detour in a little town where there was a great Cigarette Factory — The Trinidad Bros — one of the largest in Cuba. From then on we began to see terrific destruction from the hurricane last Sept. Royal Palms flat on the ground others with the tops twisted off houses left merely piles of kindling whole rows of trees uprooted. We reached Cienfuegos at 3^{35} and went to the St. Charles Hotel where Tom called up Soledad and found that we were to leave our baggage and come at once to Soledad by hired car. After a glass of medicine beer we started for Soledad and reached there at 4^{45} less than an hour over roads that could not be described except to say that all the detours were far better than the roads themselves. We met Mr. Hughes at the office and he took us into the old house where my father + mother came in the Winter of 1883-1884 after hospitalities we went up to Harvard House where was all in readiness for our reception. In about an hour our luggage arrived and shortly after that we sat down to a delicious hot supper. Of course Mr. Gray was waiting for us on our arrival and he and Tom had much to talk about. We turned in fairly early knowing the habits of the place and the early start we would make in the morning. The night sounds were remarkable - birds and humans both made the few moments of waking very vivid. I wrote a bit in my diary and sent off a letter to Sally and turned in about 8 P.M.

Feb. 15 - 39 years ago the S.S. Maine was destroyed in Havana Harbour. I was awakened at 5^{30} by the sound of a boys voice singing gaily as he went by on his horse. Soon whistles were blowing and bells ringing and the steady puff puff could be heard of the cane trains bringing the crude material to the mill. We soon were at the breakfast table consuming fruit, hot rolls and supra distilled coffee (in homeopathic doses), scrambled eggs + and very good it all was. Shortly afterwards the old Model T. was turned up and we were on our way to the Gardens. Long before daylight we were at Mr. Grey's house and after he joined us we went into the new garden. Of course to my untrained eye it was a wonderful sight of tropical beauty great palms enormous Ceiba trees clumps of bamboo over forty feet in height + all unscarred or nearly so showed conclusively that they had successfully weathered the gale. The ponds were full of great ~~lilly~~ lily pads and teeming with bird life. Vines in full blossom and shrubs covered with flowers made it seem a beauty spot. On the other hand, there were several seemingly dead trees still standing and many stumps with just a few leaves springing out told of havoc then there were vacant areas where it was these trees had stood before. We immediately began to take notice of the birds. Tom was disappointed at the scarcity of bird life I was astonished at the abundance showing that I am utterly unable to grasp what this place must have been before the hurricane of last September. In the old garden the damage was more apparent and the destruction much greater in the first place the obvious thing was that the shade was gone the old garden is now almost as open as the new — there great trees were gone others hopelessly injured and almost all showing damage. The houses of the workers barns, sheds etc of Limones now are plainly visible from all parts of the old garden and will have to be 'planted out' with more rapidly growing verdure probably bananas Tom says.

The day was beautifully clear and we saw all these in bright sunshine and brilliant blue sky against which we could see the great turkey buzzards wheeling high up a mile or so at least. But these great birds were always in sight often throwing a shadow on our path as we went along. We saw our old friends the Gallinules the superb Purple and the plainer Florida and so near that we could almost count the feathers, there was a fascinating little grebe diving and preening its feathers and washing itself which we watched for some time. We had the rare fortune to see a splendid Masked Duck and to get near enough to really see it in detail before it dove and then it promptly came up again and but little further away. The Tree ducks with their long legs were seen constantly about the pond and we got very good chances for close study. The most brilliant water fowl was the Jacana rich red and ruddy brown with brilliant yellow bills and shield like spot just above the bill. They have long legs and very long toes and they run on top of the lily pads. We saw and studied many of these. We saw a pair of King Rails and got a fleeting glimpse of the spotted rail. The most remarkable bird of all was the great Limpkin – a crane with an enormous long bill curved like an ibis this bird of course has long legs like a heron and walks very rapidly and flies strongly and gracefully. Rich brown in color with splashes of white on the upper part of the wings and fine dots of white on the neck and chest. They have a peculiar and very attractive cry. We saw many on the ground and also perched on top of the tallest trees. Almost incessantly we could hear the cooing of the mourning dove either near at hand or far away and we saw dozens of them. We had ample opportunity to study the Blue Thrush a perfectly beautiful bird with bright red legs and almost as red about the lower part of its breast as our robin and about the same size.

We saw several Cuban orioles not as brilliant as our Baltimore. We only saw one humming bird much to Tom's disappointment — this was the forked tailed Emerald throated (Riccordi) Hummingbird. We saw a pair of Sparrow hawks on a tree top — much whiter than our species. We watched many Meadow larks and heard them sing — smaller than our bird and not so yellow.

We constantly were aware of the fact that the garden is in the middle of a sugar plantation. We could hear the cane trains puffing, the engine bells ringing and the distant shriek of the whistles seemed at times almost unnecessarily prolonged. We could hear the creaking of the ox carts bringing the cane to the station. There are great four wheeled carts drawn by six oxen the yokes tied with rope to the horns. We came back to lunch or second breakfast at 11 o'clock and took a nap for an

Havana w. It was not really hot only about 85 at noon or rather two o'clock for I guess we were both sound asleep at that time. In the afternoon we went back and spent the time with Mr. Grey in the new garden The following is the "official" score of the birds seen on Feb. 15th

Turkey buzzards, many. Little Grebe 5,
Pied billed Grebe 1. Masked Duck 1
Tree Ducks ± 8 Florida Gallinule, many,
Purple Gallinule, many, King Rail 2
Spotted Rail 1 Limpkin ± 15
Ground dove 2 only! White winged dove
1, Cuban mourning dove many,
Blue Thrush many, Toti many
Cuban red wing many, wedge tailed
grackle, many, Mocking birds many.
Ricords humming bird 1! Meadow Larks 25±
Cuban Green heron several. Little blue heron,
several. Louisiana heron 1 or 2
Ground finch many. Cuban orioles 3 or 4.

Jacanas 8-10 Cuban Sparrow Hawks ± 6-8
Jewbirds many Lizard Cuckoos 2 ±
Gray Kingbird several. Bobito several
Besides these we saw the following migrants
Palm Warblers several, Redstarts 3-5, Catbird
5-8 and numerous warblers impossible to identify.

Feb. 16th Slept until almost 7. Temp 72 clear day with heavy humidity. We spent the morning in the new garden observing the birds and Tom continuing his taking account of stock. The afternoon we spent in the old Garden going over every tree and vacant spot with care. We saw many birds both morning and afternoon the new ones were very numerous considering the number we saw yesterday Some of the new ones were very beautiful especially the two woodpeckers - the green being one of the most beautiful bird I have ever seen. The Cuban Tody I just got a glimpse of but enough to realize that it must be a perfect gem

We had ample opportunity to study the very brightly plumaged little Fruit finch. We had the rare fortune to see the great Blue Heron (Cuban) and near enough for a good look through the glasses. We also had a splendid chance to study the Cuban oriole an adult male and an immature male in the same bush side by side. We had a very good look at the Pygmy owl. We found 2 mourning dove nests, 2 eggs. Here follows the score for today.

The new specimens Coot, 1. "Checked" Cuban Woodpecker, 4. Green Woodpecker, 4. Rail (not identified but differ) Yellow rumped warbler several Prairie Warbler many Cuban Tody 2, Marsh Hawk, 1. Blue gray gnat catcher, several, Cuban warbler, 1 ♀. Fruit Finch, 2. Large Cuban crested Tyrant bird, 3. Pigmy owl, 2. Cuban great blue heron 1 Besides these we saw Little Grebe, 2. Lizard cuckoo, 10-15. Florida Gallinule many Purple Gallinules, 10-15. Judios, many. Tomeguins, 15-20. Orioles, 10-15. Mocking birds many. Forked tail humming bird, 1. Sparrow Hawk ([illegible])
10-15

Redstart, several. Black throated blue, many. Maryland yellow throat, several., Meadow Lark, many. Ground dove, 10-12. Mourning dove many.

Zenaida (white winged) dove 2. Gray Kingbird, many. Little blue heron, several. "Loggerhead" fly catcher, 3. Tody, many. Stolid fly catcher, 4-6. "Little Fool", many. Blue Thrush, 7-10. Jew birds, very many. Wedged tailed black bird - many. Cat bird 3 Palm warbler, many. Ground finch, several. Turkey buzzards many. Green heron, many. Cuban red winged black bird, many. Red bellied Cuba 2, ~~Pygmy owl~~ Besides this we heard a Black Whiskered Vireo singing. Went to bed early as we are planning an early start to see the birds,

Feb. 17 Up at 5^{30} and out in the garden with moon and stars still shining. The moon was making the East faintly coloured over ~~the~~ the superb Trinidad range which were purple in the early morning light. These great hills are about 4000 ft high and richly forest clad they are almost uniform in height tapering off at the Northern end. Literally hundreds of peaks and beautifully modelled. I never weary of their charm and they look always different with the changing lights. We took our posts at the most strategic points but safe for Simpkins and me but nothing did move. After the sun was up we began seeing things. The high spot of the morning for me was a tody about 20 feet away which I watched for about 10 minutes through the glass seeing all of the marvelous coloring and his queer little habit of hiccoughing – of course taking in a little fly of some sort every time he does it. I think without exception this bird is the most beautiful bird I have ever seen he is a little kingfisher really although he lives on insects and his plumage is beyond description a real parrot green brilliant red, pink and white. We really saw very few birds only two new species today the beautiful, parti colored Hispanol Finch and the migrant Yellow bellied sapsucker but that brings us up to 54 to-date and 46 today! No Ornithologist could complain of that. We spent the morning in the New Garden and after our Siesta

We spent most of the afternoon in the Old Garden with Mr. Grey. then we went back to the new garden and had a wonderful time watching two families of the Little Grebe one pair with 1 baby the other with 3 downy babies. We came home at about 5 P.M. and found that Dr. Dickerson had got back from the mountains — a very delightful fellow. It has been a beautiful day more or less overcast but very pleasant. Thermometer just 70 when we got up and we both pulled up sheets last night. And now at the end of the day the thermometer stands just about the same. Here is the score for today

Turkey buzzards, many. Mourning dove many +, Nonpareil Finch, 1. Yellow bellied sapsucker 1 Tody 4 or 5
Blue gray gnat catcher 8-12. Palm Warbler 6-10
Lizard Cuckoo 8-10 Little Green heron 4-6
Limpkin 10-15 Coot 1 Florida Gallinule, many
Purple Gallinule 6-8 Little Grebe 10-15
(2 broods less than 3 weeks old 1 alone 3 in other brood)
Pie billed Grebe, 2. Chestnut sided warbler 2
Meadow lark 12-16. Marsh hawk 2
Black throated blue warblers 1 Ricord hummingbird 2

Wedge-tailed grackle, many. Antillean [illegible], 10-12
Little blue heron, 2. Jacana, 8-10. Tree Duck, 2.
Maryland yellow throat 6-10. Green woodpecker, 2
'[illegible] backed' Woodpeckers 2. Fruit Finch 1.
Mocking bird many. Blue Thrush many.
Great crested tyrant ~~woodpecker~~ flycatcher 4-6. White headed
King bird 4. Grey Kingbird 4-6.
Toties 6. Bobitos 6-10 Ground
Dove 4-6 "White winged Dove" 4-6.
Jew birds 10. Cuban pygmy owl, 2.
Sparrow hawk 4 (both phases) Cat birds 2,
Black and White creepers 1. Ground finch 4-6
Redwing! Blackbirds – many Redstart 6-8

Tuesday Feb. 18 we waited around after breakfast at 7 to hear from Kourichey about possible transportation to the Canal Zone. Went to the garden at about 8 30. We saw a pair of Red tailed hawks hearing ~~them~~ cry before we saw them circling side by side high overhead – their wing spread almost equals the Turkey Buzzard. Tom heard from Havana that the chances for passage to the Canal zone was small. After lunch + our nap we again went back to the garden and persuaded Mr Gray to cut out a lot of old stumps greatly improving the looks of the garden – also trimming several palms that had dead leaves hanging on them still as a result of the hurricane. We went up to the woods late in the afternoon and saw many warblers identifying Bachmans, Parula and the Magnolia.

The record for the day was Cape May Warbler 1 Thrasher Buzzard many. Palm Warbler many Redstart three. Cuban oriole 8-10. Green Herons, 6-8. Little Blue heron 4-6. Louisiana 2 Sparrow hawk 3. Blue Thrush many. Fruit Finch 1. Ground Finch many. Meadow Larks 8-10. Ground Dove 2 Florida Gallinules many. Purple Gallinules 8-10 Jacana 15-20. Coot 2. Little Grebe 2 Tody many, Cuban red winged blackbird 2 Mocking birds many. Black throated blue warbler 10-12 Jew birds 15-20. Marbled Duck 1 Cuban Red Winged Hawks 2

Limpkin 8-10. Lizard Cuckoo 3-5

Blue gray Gnatcatcher 8-10 (? of seeing the Cuban species)
Yellow bellied Sapsucker 1 Wedged tail grackle 4-6
Great crested Kingbird 1. Loggerhead flycatcher 1
Bobwhites 2-4 Little Tern 8-10 Bachman's Warbler 1-3
Parula Warbler 1-3, Magnolia Warbler 4-6
Maryland Yellow throat 6-8. Myrtle Warbler 4-6.

We also saw a Cuban snake about 8 ft. long. It was just about to change its skin so was blind. We saw many Lizards. Thermometer was in the 70's all day and great fleecy clouds in sky. Dickenson went to Cienfuegos getting back in time for dinner. We had a turkey Tom bought on Sunday for 90 cents. It must have weighed all of 10 lbs. and very good it was.

Wednesday Feb. 19 A beautiful clear morning. We were in the garden before seven and in the woods shortly afterwards. Tom saw the little yellow rail which we have often heard before but never seen. We also saw a Killdeer Plover and a perfectly beautiful Cormorant with brown head and neck.

While we were up in the woods it started to rain and so hard that we had to come home. On our arrival at Harvard House we found a call to come down and welcome the Claflins, Emerson and Ted. Pitman who had arrived during the night. Mr. Claflin was most cordial and Amelia was as she has always been since a child — perfectly delightful. We spent an hour at Soledad seeing the cattle that are going to the Fair in Havana, then we came back to Harvard-House for breakfast at 11 a.m. & a nap. We were back again at Soledad a little before 2 and soon were on a car going over the enormous Atkins estate of 38,000 acres. It was very comprehensive. We saw the old Spanish estates that have been made part of the present Plantation. We ended up at the Harvard Gardens equipped with shotguns to exterminate the Guinea hens which have become quite a pest about 18 birds successfully killed. On the trip around the plantation I saw several quail, Kildeer Plover,

and great blue heron, also many blue herons and a few in
~~their~~ white plumage — adolescent birds. We got
to the gardens a little after ~~four~~ (4) and the
boys succeeded as I have said before in making a
definite dent in the Guinea hen situation. The
boys stopped for refreshment at Harvard House
and after they left we had a very delicious
meal of Guinea hen fricassed. It has been very
comfortable today two heavy showers and
the thermometer in the 70's all day. Here
follows our score for the day. The new birds
were as noted above plus a sharp shinned hawk
Tom and I saw in the new gardens while the shooting
was on — it was flying low — easily and clearly seen

Little Grebe 5-7. Cormorant (Bigua) 4-6
Great blue Heron 10-12. Little Green 6-8. Little blue heron many some in white plumage.
Masked Duck 2. Tree duck 6-8. Turkey
Buzzard many. Sparrow Hawk (both phases) 10-16.
Sharp Shinned hawk 1. Cuban Quail 6-8.
Limpkins 10-12. Little Yellow Rail 1 (several heard)
Purple Gallinules 6-8. Florida Gallinule 12-16.
Coot 2. Killdeer Plover 5-10. Mourning Dove - many

Ground Dove 12-14, Lizard Cuckoo 1. Jewbirds many
Pygmy Owl 4. West Ind. Red bellied woodpecker 2,
Green Woodpecker 2. Bobito (Flycatcher) 4. Little Fool
Flycatcher 2. Mocking birds many. Blue Thrush many.
Blue gray ~~G~~ Gnat catcher 6-8. Palm Warblers many.
Redstarts 6-8. ~~Myrtle~~ magnolia warbler ~~many~~, Black Throated Blue
warbler 2. Wedged Tailed grassquit 6-8
Toties many. Cuban orioles 10-12
Meadow larks many Ground Finch many

Thursday Feb. 20. Up at 6^30 after a cool night 68 at dawn. Out in the garden at sunrise. We went up to the woods and saw many birds including a beautiful broad winged hawk flying directly towards us and turning in full flight not 50 ft. away on seeing us. Last night Tom heard several Barn owls unmistakably. We saw two black & white creeping warblers. We spent ~~the~~ entire morning in the gardens and saw great improvements in cleaning out old stuff in both of them. We went down to Soledad for a very delicious breakfast. We came home for a very short nap, when T. Petersons came up and with him we went down to the garden where he took many pictures in both gardens we slowed him — 2 or 3 otters came very near. We also saw blue herons, cormorants, masked ducks, lizard cuckoos, jacanas, gallinules, grebes & herons a very good ornithological afternoon. We also heard & saw a belted kingfisher, many cat birds, todies etc. Got little greens, great blues, & little blues, tree ducks etc. About as active an afternoon as we have had. We stopped in at Harvard House & Bill & Helen joined us. For dinner tonight we had a very delicious baked grouper and the finest shrimp I have ever eaten. Since noon it has been quite warm hardly a cloud in the sky.

The score for the day follows: Pied billed grebe 3 Little grebe 5, Cormorant 2. Great blue heron 2 Little blue heron 3, Little Green heron 5. Masked duck 3. Tree ducks 8. Turkey buzzard many Sparrowhawk 8-10. Cuban Sharp Shinned 2. Cuban Broad winged hawk 2. Limpkins 3. Purple gallinules 6 Florida Gallinules 16-20. Coot 2. Jacana 12-15. Mourning Doves many. Ground doves 12-15. Lizard Cuckoos 12-15. Jew Birds many. Barn owls several Pygmy owls 2-4. Belted Kingfisher 2. Tody 6-8 Green Woodpecker 2

W. I. red bellied Woodpecker 2-4. Mocking bird many
Cat bird 6-8. Blue thrush many. Blue gray gnatcatcher 6-10
Black throated blue warbler 6-8. Palm warblers many.
Red starts 4-6. Black & white creeping 2
Great crested Kingbird 2, Gray kingbird 2
Loggerhead Flycatcher 4. Bobitos 6. Little [illegible] 2.
Red winged blackbird many; Wedged tailed grackle 12-16
Tody many. Cuban crow 20-30. Meadow lark many
Fruit finch 2-4 Ground finch 40-60.

Friday Feb. 21st Our plans for Panama have not developed we are still in doubt but expect definite news tomorrow P.M. Went to the garden morning and afternoon and did a little birding but spent most of the day getting the grass out of the paths in the back coming down from the woods. Mr. Everett one of the Superintendents came to dinner and we had Guinea chickens from the garden and incidentally a very jolly time. Here follows the score for the day. (but before that I want to say that after dinner we watched a most wonderful electrical display along the northern

horizon - it was almost St. Elmos Fire)
Little Grebe 5-7 Cormorant 1 Great blue heron 2 Little Green 5-6
Little blue 6 Masked duck 2 Tree duck 9 Turkey buzzard many
Sparrow hawk 8-10 C. sharp Shinned hawk 1 Cuban red tailed
2 Cuban Quail 16-20 Limpkins 8-10 Coot 1
Purple Gallinule 8-12 Florida Gallinule 20-25
Jacana 10-12 Killdeer 4 Mourning dove many
Ground dove 4 Lizard Cuckoo 10-12 Jew bird 15-20
Tody 6-8 W. I. Red bellied woodpecker 4 Green woodpecker
2 Gray kingbird 3-4 Loggerhead Fly catcher 4-6
Bobits 4-4 Little Fool 3-5 Mocking bird many
Cat bird 6± Blue Thrush 6± Blue gray gnat catcher 10-12
Black Throated blue 2 Palm many.
Redstart 2-3 Blackburnian 1 Red wing b. b. many
Toti many Cuban oriole 3-4 Meadowlark many
Ground Finch many. After we went to bed we
were awaked at 10^{30} by a tremendous thunder
shower which lasted about half an hour. Incessant
lightning and peals of thunder there close on the
heels of of the thunder about 1/2 in. of rain fell
in 1/2 hour and some of it through our roofs!!

Feb. 22 The day dawned gray & angry but no more rain fell. It was a cool day & tonight at 7 P.M. the thermometer hovers around 64. It cleared off about noon. In the early morning Tom & I went to the woods and liberated 6 blue headed quail doves which used to be very common in the woods but have been trapped out. A beautiful dove the finest coloring for a pigeon I have ever seen. We spent the morning and most of the afternoon getting the grass out of the pool above the dam in the brook coming down from the woods and we certainly made enormous progress. We went down to Soledad in the morning and called up Havana. Mr. Hennessey said that there was just 1 chance of a passage to the Canal Zone. (A family missed the boat in New York and were coming to Havana by Miami — if they can't get across then we'll get the state room and go — otherwise not!!) We saw Mrs Claflin who seemed very sorry that we were going tomorrow.

We spent the afternoon on the grass cutting job in the ponds. We saw two new birds today a splendid big White heron at sunset and the aforementioned doves. These follow the score for today and all these were absolutely accidental we made no attempt to see plenty of birds that we could have easily seen if we had gone to their familiar haunts. Ted Pitmans and Ray Emerson dropped in for a few minutes before dinner.

Pied-billed Grebe 1 Little Grebe 8-10
Cormorant 1 L. Green Heron 4-6 L. Blue 6-8
Great White 1, Mottled Duck 1 Turkey buzzard
many Limpkin 6-8 Purple Gallinule 2-4
Florida Gallinules 4-6 Jacanas 6-8
Killdeer 1 Mourning doves many
Ground doves 4-6 Blue headed Quail Doves
6 Jew birds 6-8 Mocking birds many
Palm Warbler many Magnolia Warbler 1
Bachmans Warbler 1 Red winged Blackbird several
Toti 10-16 Cuban Bird 8-10 Meadowlarks
many Ground finch 8-10

Feb 23 Finished packing last night. Up bright and early and after breakfast we piled into Dickersons automobile and started for St. Clara. We stopped at the Viviendas to say good bye but only found Mr. Hughes. After chatting with him until 8 o'clock and learning that the others were still asleep we left our goodbyes and were on our way. Going into Cienfuegos we saw several great white herons hunting in the fields. We went around the water front of Cienfuegos out beyond the "Yacht Club" before we turned inland. We saw great pelicans and Royal Terns in the harbor. It was a glorious day for driving and we were sorry to see the beautiful blue Trinidad mountains fade away in the distance. At Santa Clara we went to a very good Hotel right in the Square after we went to the railroad station and secured our tickets for Havana. We had a very good lunch and substantial enough to last until Havana. The train trip was not at all bad although slow. There was no chair car but the straw seats were comfortable and reasonably clean, and, with the windows open, as cool as anyone could wish. We recognized many familiar spots as we went along — as the R.R. closely parallels the road, by which we came down. We reached Havana just after sunset and found Mr. Hemingway, Maurice, and Mr. Palmer (a geologist and friend of Tom's) We came at once to the Hotel Ambos Mundos and got our rooms arranged for (the Hotels are very full) and then went to ~~the~~ Zaragozana where we had a delicious meal and then after taking H. home we made a tour of the waterfront and the environs there was evidence of Holiday atmosphere as the Carnival began today. No news about passage to the Canal Zone — there is a chance that we can get a stateroom but only a small possibility.

Monday Feb. 24 Went up on the roof before breakfast and looked over the city. We saw many Cuban purple finches flying about the cathedral towers. Flags were flying from every flag pole for this is a great National Holiday in honor of the beginning of Cuban Liberty. (Sort of a Patriots day although the event celebrated came some fifty eight years before the final freedom) Soon after breakfast Henriquez appeared and we went down to his office and Tom began to try every avenue by which we could obtain information about passage to the Canal Zone. We kept in touch with Henriquez or the United Fruit Office all day and it was not until nearly 7 P.M. that we finally heard that there was no possible way that we could get passage to the Zone and back again to Havana. In the meantime we had twice gone out to the fair grounds to see the horses and cattle from Soledad – the first time unsuccessfully as it was impossible to get in

When we returned we sat in front of the Inglaterra and saw a few floats and a few decorated automobiles go by there was quite a crowd and some throwing of confetti. For dinner we went again to the Zaragozana where we had little cuban (mangrove swamp) oysters — tiny they are but the flavor is superb we also had fish and Moorish crabs and green turtle soup, full of vegitables and much finer than the clear green. Again we went around the City for an hour or so the seas were breaking along the waterfront throwing up great masses of spray. As we reached the Cafe across from the Hotel we met Charlie Thrall an old friend of Toms And by far the most famous American in Cuba. We had a glass of beer with him and planned to go tomorrow to Pinar del Rio with him. We saw a number of greenish purple swallows Tom says that they are native in the Bahamas & just wintering here.

Feb. 25 Notified everyone of our change in plans by their mail and cable. Shaughnessy met us at breakfast and Charlie Thrall as soon as we got down stairs. At 8^{15} after Tom had bought a few chances in the lottery we were on our way to Pinar del Rio a distance of some two hundred Kilometers. We went through most interesting country, flowers, Palms and some sugar fields but very varied crops, quantities of tobacco with quaint little tobacco barns with thatched roof. The plant is very small not half as high and the leaves less than half the size and much narrower than our broad leaf of the Connecticut Valley. Great fields of pine apples, hundreds of acres, tomatoes, grape fruit, bananas and excellent corn all growing luxuriantly made the country very varied and beautiful. We first passed great brown stone hills less than a thousand feet high filled with caves then the high mountains came in view and steadily approached. They are not quite so high as the Trinidad Mountains, but very majestic. We reached Pinar del Rio before noon and after waiting a while for an excellent lunch to digest we went out over rough roads about ten miles until we were high up in the hills and the hills were covered with real pine trees. Tom was delighted to see how much more pine clad the hills are now than when he was here before just about 18 years ago. We heard the lizard cuckoo and Tom thought he heard the wild parrot. We came back and took the main road back to Havana for a distance of about twenty miles turning off to a little town San Diego de los Baños where there are wonderful hot springs. We saw several herons most of them blue and some fruit finches. This little town is right at the foot of the mountains and the country round about is very beautiful.

When we were about 15 Kilometers outside of Havana we were suddenly stopped by a mounted policeman. It seems that a Great Shrove Tuesday ceremony was about to take place and all traffic was forbidden. It was almost sunset but there was nothing to do but make the best of it. After many repeated delays the procession came in full view. Two mounted policeman. Back of these a corps of pedestrians and clubs followed by three acolytes one carrying a cross & the two others candlesticks the candles yet unlighted. After these came the priest looking very bored and talking with knots of bystanders whenever the procession stopped which it did about every 100 feet. After him followed a helter-skelter crowd and behind them a group of women carrying a huge banner of the patron Saint. The delays were caused by the burden being shifted from one favored dame to another which meant a shift in all the trappings that were in connection with her proud position. After the banner with some suggestion of order followed a group of two or three hundred many of whom were carrying candles and as the darkness came on these were lighted. Finally came the saint all lighted up with hundreds of candles and carried on sort of a litter high on the mens shoulders. A few followed but almost immediately the road was cleared and we were on our way making up for lost time. All this delay cost us about an hour. We stopped at the hotel for a minute or two to get washed up and then went to the Zaragosana where we had a delicious dinner of shell fish and a bottle of Spanish red wine 1880 and just about the best red wine I ever tasted. Charlie Thrall was most interesting and he told us a lot about his experiences in the Spanish War. He was an American Spy and came within an ace of being shot as he was captured by the Spaniards.

On the way home we stopped at Charlie's apartment high up in the oldest house in Havana just around the corner from the cathedral. The wood and iron work in the house are most remarkable. He steps right out of his landing on to the tiled roof from where you can look out at the entrance to the harbor. Then we came down to the quaint cathedral square and sat on the stone platform of the cafe that forms part of one side of the quadrangle after a glass of beer we walked home to the hotel after a most remarkable day.

I forgot to mention that on the day before yesterday while waiting for news from Colon, Henriquez took us to the building now occupied by the department of Public Works – it used to be an old convent in part & the whole. Inside the wooden railings, the panels, the ceilings and the tiles are perfectly superb.

In the court yard there were beautiful shrubs and trees and arbors on one of these a superb White heron was leisurely preening itself – right in the heart of Havana. There also in the court yard was a little building just more than twenty by forty feet one story with a stone floor. This was the first market in Havana.

Cuba Wednesday Feb. 26. After breakfast we called up Herrigney and found that there were no vacancies this week on the Miami boat but that he had made reservations on the Key West Boat for Friday morning which seems much better for us as we have another day in Havana and then see everything there is to see on our trip to Key West and besides that we see that very interesting old city. Tom did some work at the office and I found a letter from the office in Boston, satisfactory enough. Then Tom and I went out the the Botanical Garden and Research Laboratory out beyond the Fair grounds. Tom had a very satisfactory time and got some plants for the garden at Soledad he very much wanted. On the way back we stopped at the Fair and found that the Soledad Horses had won first and second prize in their class. and that they had done equally well with the cattle all of which they had sold except their prize bull which they refused to part with. We saw Rodriguez and Mr Leonard and congratulated them on the fine appearance of the cattle and the horses and on their successful showing. We then returned to the city and lunched at the Crystal a very swell cafe just behind the Capitol building. Then we walked to Henriquez office where Tom wrote a couple of letters and then he took me to buy a hat - I got just what I wanted - a broad brimmed hat of Panama -like straw - for $3. I then walked back to the Hotel. It has been distinctly warm today quite the warmest we have had but certainly not uncomfortably hot. I have been writing now for over an hour getting up to date.

Met Charlie Thrall and dined with him at the Cafe across the street the Ambos Mundos - very good fare indeed - Afterwards as usual T. & I drove around for about an

I was retiring at 9 P.M.

Feb. 27 Beautiful clear day. At 9 30 Aguayo (a student of Torre's now an instructor in the University) called for us in his car and we went out to see Dr. Palmer's fossils — a most remarkable collection of very early shells and sea urchins. After spending nearly an hour there we started for Mariel on the North shore of Cuba. A beautiful harbor with a very narrow mouth to it and high on a bluff overlooking the harbor stands the Naval Academy. We saw very few birds in the bay only a few Herring Gulls and Laughing Gulls from the North and 2 Royal Tern. On the way to Mariel we saw a small white heron and also a small blue. The white was so near that we could plainly see the egret plumes on the head. We saw a few grass birds and warblers of course. We had a delicious lunch looking out over the Bay. After lunch we went several miles into the country and saw a varied landscape. We got back in time to do a little final shopping. We got some 1914 Old Crow Whiskey across the Street at a marked down sale for 90 cents a pint. Now we are all packed up and our Custom House papers all made out and we are going to get an early dinner and go to bed with the chickens as we intend being on the boat at 8 A.M. we sail at 9. tomorrow.

Feb 28 Up before dawn and saw the sun rise from the roof of the Ambos Mundos. We were at the dock bright and early all right but had to cool our heels for a good hour before we could get aboard – we left at about twenty minutes of 10. The day was perfect and sea calm as a millpond. It was very amusing seeing the vendors along the ship in little boats selling guava jelly, rum and cognac for very low figures which undoubtedly was royal pay for the quantity dispensed.

We were now in the Gulf Stream and saw the beautiful city sink into the horizon. The ship made excellent time. We saw very little bird life a few royal terns and Gulls but no pelicans as we left the Cuban shore. We saw a few Jaegers the black predatory gull and very few flying fish not more than a dozen or so and all the large species none of them made remarkably long flights. We saw several black fish spouting and a school of big whales quite a distance from the ship. Near Key West we saw a few porpoises. It began to rain very gently and without wind but the sky looked like a norther in spite of the S.E. wind the rain ceased and the sun came out before we sighted Sand Key at about 2 P.M. Would say that we had a very excellent lunch. The boat was crowded with very uninteresting and for the most part ~~uninteresting~~ middle aged people.

From Sand Key on the American Shore rapidly disclosed itself. We saw a row of Tankers riding light and evidently bound for Mexico. It grew blacker and blacker as we neared the shore and we landed in a heavy shower. As we were waiting to go through the formalities of entry — or rather re-entry to the father land we had examples of the deleterious effect (on certain members of the passenger list) of cheap liquor bought from rum boats.

We were very lucky in the Custom House — where it was amusing to see corsages of sweet peas and rods of sugar cane rudely snatched from bosoms and clinging hands by the Dept. of Agriculture.

We were soon through the Customs — passing rain and dripping umbrellas. Tom found familiar faces among the porters and cabbies and we were well taken care of and soon

running rapidly through the quaint streets
on our way to the beautiful Casa Marina
Hotel where we were most cordially received.
After finding our rooms and unloading
we again took our automobile and
the storm being nearly over went
to see the town. First to the new set of [illegible]
aquarium by far the best I have ever
seen and which Tom compared to
Naples. The water was clear as crystal
and many rare and interesting fishes
beautifully displayed. We then went to
the "Turtle crawls" where we saw
great creatures waiting to be turned
into soup. The wind was high and the
rain had stopped and the air was
literally filled with herring gulls, never
in Key West had we seen so many.
Here we also had a marvellous view of
a superb male frigate bird in full
plumage. I watched this glorious creature for
nearly ten minutes through the glass

We then took a turn through the old abandoned navy yard and then Tom made a call on the Bascom Browns — old friends who lost a beautiful daughter in the hurricane at Matacombe. We then went back to the hotel after driving through the quaint streets and out into the outskirts, we saw no more birds except a sparrow hawk or two and pelicans in the harbor.

We went back to the Hotel cleaned up and went down to a delicious dinner of Soup craw fish and turtle steak guava jelly and cheese. The Hotel was well filled. We called up Boston and Key West and after making arrangements for a very early start to the Ferry. We went out along the beautiful Beach beyond the gardens and watched the light house winking and the little moon shining on the waves of the cocoanut palms. We went to bed early — no mosquitoes. Our room looked out on the garden and all night as we roused we heard the wind shaking the great palms outside our window and the distant sound of the sea.

Feb. 29 Up at 5^{30} and in the car all packed and settled for the drive at 5^{50}. It was dark when we left the hotel and the light houses were shining gleams as we rattled out of Key West. As dawn came we were crossing the Keys on an excellent road. We saw two splendid great white heron (the real Florida great white closely allied to Wards heron which we had seen so often in the Everglades and in Cowley ~~Florida~~. The sun came up as we went over Pine Key and we noticed the beauty of the young pine trees growing there in abundance. We got to the Ferry at about 7^{15} a forty mile run

We got our stuff stowed aboard the rickety old hooker and learned from the genial Captain – a darn nice fellow – that there was no chance of reaching Lower Matecumbe before 2^{30}. The wind was blowing good and strong from the North East which was just where we were heading. We got a bite of breakfast – coffee tea & hotcakes & eggs – good enough, at a few minutes of eight but no sign of starting. The boat filled up rapidly and the passengers arrived in heavy coats, furs and sweaters much to our amusement. 8^{15} came and they were still loading the automobiles on to the Ferry. At about 8^{20} we made an attempt to start but being pretty well aground and the wind blowing directly onto the ferry slip we didn't make much progress. About 8^{40} a little tug boat got into action and we went out of the slip bumping heavily on the bottom and then we were soon on our way. The water was a glorious color in the sun but so riled by the wind that for the most part we couldnot see the colors of the bottom. We watched the laughing gulls, herring gulls, royal terns and cormorants with an occasional shell drake one great loon at quite a distance and as we neared our destination a great white heron was standing on a coral reef so near that I could see him plainly and make out all the details through the glass a really glorious bird. We lunched off sandwiches and beer – perfectly adequately. The deck was pandemonium most of the time – a very sad drunk, a poker game which lasted almost all the time of passage this with a crap game a slot machine and a very poor fisherman bottling for fish and actually catching one mackerel beguiled the otherwise rather tedious stretch of time until we arrived at Matecumbe at $3^{\underline{20}}$. At times the channel was so narrow that we almost touched the coral shoals on each side and several times we just scraped bottom. David was waiting for us and we were whisked rapidly to Chapman field, Jim Mahoney from the Dept. in Washington — dispersing agent and a great friend of Pop's — was our driver until we left him at the field and then I drove the Ford to David's house. We had king fish for dinner and was it good! I forgot to mention several porpoises playing off the boat opposite Long Key where we could see the tremendous havoc left by the great hurricane of last Labor day also the numerous and very amusing pelicans which we watched all day and as we left the keys before reaching Florida City we saw one unfortunate hooked by a fisherman on the bridge between

Card Sound and Barnes Sound. Called up Sally + Ros in evening and found all well at home and not too dispicably cold. Turned in early after sampling our Old Crow which we were delighted to find was the real thing and absolutely priceless. This we bought for 90 cents a pint at the Ambos Mundos Cafe in Havana.

Mar. 1 up early and breakfasted as usual off beakers of orange + grape fruit juice, goose eggs scrambled and warmed over King Fish. The morning was spent in part in trying to get my hair cut but while I found the Barber shop open and waiting for customers I also found that it was against the law to cut the hair on the Sabbath day with anything except a razor! Went to the Station and got transportation back to Boston for next Saturday morning. Wonderful Rijstafel (Javanese) for lunch and in P.M. went to the Miami Biltmore for Fischer's Seascapes really quite remarkable and full of pep but showing that he is first and foremost and illustrator. We also saw several stunts at the pool in the Hotel, acrobats, tight rope acts diving and last and most remarkable a boy catching and throwing a big alligator in the pool (alligator Joe Coppinger). We got the lobster salad ready and now after supper we are turning in with all plans laid for an early start to the West Coast.